

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS HIGHLIGHTED THROUGH
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Volunteer Week. Our communities across the country are a better place because of the commitment of America's volunteers. Being a volunteer means giving your time unconditionally and having a heart full of compassion. Many times this giving person doesn't receive any sort of thanks or gratitude, but still continues to give what they can to their community without receiving recognition.

Today, I would like to recognize and thank Treatha Brown-Foster from the 4th District of Kansas for all her diligent work. Treatha has a diverse portfolio of programs and activities for which she volunteers. A few programs she participates in include: procuring funding for the Christmas Treasures Fund for the Boys and Girls Club, motivating the public to cooperate with law enforcement agencies as a member of the Crime Stoppers Board, and serving on the Board of Governors for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Excellence in Public Service Series.

Treatha's commitment to her community is remarkable. At a time when it seems many people are focused on themselves, it is refreshing to see people like Treatha, who want to do more for others and do so with joy in their hearts and smiles on their faces. Much of this service goes unrecognized, so today I thank Treatha and others like her for their hard work and compassion.

I encourage my colleagues to promote National Volunteer Week and thank the many millions of Americans who dedicate themselves to bettering our communities. As the saying goes, "Volunteers don't get paid; not because they're worthless but because they're priceless." God bless Treatha Brown-Foster and America's priceless volunteers.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of April as Occupational Therapy Month and in my capacity as Chairman of the Veteran's Affairs Health Subcommittee, to acknowledge the contributions of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to not only our veterans across the country, but also our brave service men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. I would also like to recognize the importance of occupational therapists to the families of our service personnel. We often forget that behind every soldier are loved ones who endure the hardship of the soldier while they are in harm's

way and when they come home and take off the uniform.

Occupational therapy is a profession dedicated to the improvement of function, performance and independence. Occupational therapists work with individuals across their lifespan to prevent injury, restore function and reduce disability so that patients may live satisfying, productive and independent lives.

In my home state of Maine, occupational therapists provide essential health and rehabilitation services to veterans at the Togus Veterans Hospital and at six veterans' homes throughout the state including four in my district located in Augusta, Bangor, Caribou and Machias. Services provided in these locations stem from a range of conditions resulting from traumatic injuries experienced in combat such as amputations and poly-traumas, post-traumatic stress disorder, illness and disease and the disabling effects of aging.

In order to meet the need of veterans, Schools of Occupational Therapy in Maine, such as the Kennebec Valley Community College, work collaboratively with the veterans' facilities in the state to ensure that there are enough trained health care professionals, like occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, to meet the needs of our veterans.

During the month of April, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) will be hosting the Association's 87th Annual Conference and Expo in St. Louis, Missouri. Occupational therapists, occupational therapists assistants and students of occupational therapy from around the country will gather to support the profession and further their educational preparation to meet the needs of their patients. State affiliates like the Maine Occupational Therapy Association (MEOTA) will also be represented to ensure that the concerns of local occupational therapy professionals and patients are addressed at the conference. Of specific note, there will be over 500 education sessions including a panel to discuss active duty and veterans health care and the important role of occupational therapy for returning our service men and women to maximum function and independence.

Madam Speaker, please join me in supporting April as occupational therapy month and applauding the work of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants with our veterans, military personnel, and their families who deserve to receive the best care possible.

TRIBUTE TO RAHEEM CARTER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable individual and policeman, Raheem Carter. After a bout with cancer, died this past Friday while serving in the New London Police Department within my constituency in Connecticut.

Mr. Carter was a leader in the Groton/New London community. Carter was the starting quarterback for three years at Fitch High School, and he also captained the track team. An extraordinary athlete, Carter set the career touchdown passing record in the Eastern Con-

necticut Conference. He shined as a field general, and in 1999, alongside his twin brother Rashaad, he led Fitch to its first championship in over 23 years.

Carter not only prospered on the field, but he surmounted obstacles off the field too. Despite growing up in a challenging neighborhood, Carter excelled in school, following the guidance of his mother who raised three children on her own. Carter attended Central Connecticut University until he received a full scholarship to attend the University of Rhode Island, where he graduated in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in sociology.

From there, Carter went on to attend Connecticut State Police Academy. It was there in December 2005 when a tumor was found in his abdomen. Due to his illness, Carter spent the majority of his first year as a police officer treating his cancer with chemotherapy. Known for his incredible strength, Carter was able to temporarily beat the disease securing enough time to train under New London Police Lt. Margaret Ackley.

Carter was known as a "gentle soul and courageous spirit" with "more heart for the job than anyone Lt. Ackley had ever seen." He was a leader throughout his community seen as "someone who cared more about others than about himself." Johnny L. Burns, pastor of his church, described him as "an exceptional man in every aspect of the word who in the 25 years he lived touched so many lives."

Today I would like to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Raheem Carter. He will be greatly missed by everyone whose lives he touched.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF FINANCIAL LITERACY
MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2007

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letters regarding H. Res. 273, "Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Financial Literacy Month."

GIRLS INCORPORATED,
New York, NY, April 12, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HINOJOSA AND REPRESENTATIVE BIGGERT: Girls Inc. is proud to join you in supporting H. Res. 273, and the ideals and goals of Financial Literacy Month. Financial education is critical to ensuring that individuals gain the skills necessary to assess financial opportunities and successfully manage their money. We applaud you for your leadership on this important bill.

Through our affiliates across the country, Girls Inc. teaches girls and their families important finance skills that help them to understand topics such as banking, saving, and investments, thus helping their future economic security, success, and well-being. We believe girls in particular benefit from opportunities to learn these essential skills. A survey we conducted in 1998 of teenage daughters and their mothers, found that the